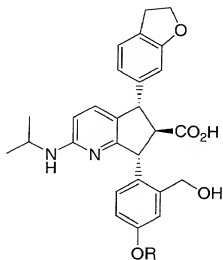


IIIa

(2) adding phosphoramidate reagent to a mixture of the Grignard addition product of Formula IIIa in a second aprotic solvent and a base at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 30°C to produce the desired compound of Formula Ia.

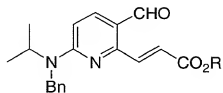
Another preferred embodiment of the present invention is a process for preparing a compound of Formula Ia,



Ia

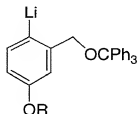
wherein R is independently H or $(\text{C}_1\text{-C}_6)\text{-alkyl}$ comprising the steps of:

- (1) reacting an α,β -unsaturated ester



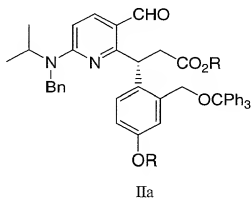
5

with a chiral auxiliary (S,S)-pseudoephedrine followed by treatment with an aryllithium compound



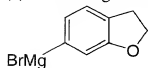
10

in toluene or tetrahydrofuran or a mixture thereof at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 0°C to give a conjugate adduct of Formula IIa,

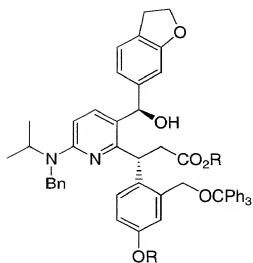


15

- (2) reacting the conjugate adduct of Formula IIa with

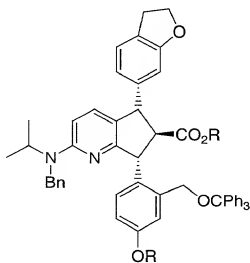


at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 30°C to give a Grignard addition product of Formula IIIa,



IIIa

- (3) adding phosphoramidate reagent to a mixture of the Grignard addition product of Formula IIIa in the presence of tetrahydrofuran or a mixture of tetrahydrofuran and toluene, and a base at a temperature range of about -80°C to about 30°C to produce a cyclized compound of Formula IV, and



IV

- (4) removing protecting groups on the cyclized compound of Formula IV to give the desired compound of Formula Ia.